

Hawaii MARINE

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JANUARY 27, 2006

Lava Dogs hit ground running

1/3 works with local forces to destroy pockets of insurgents

Sgt. Joe Lindsay
Combat Correspondent

JALALABAD, Afghanistan — The Lava Dogs of 1st Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment have wasted little time in making their presence felt on the front lines of the War on Terrorism in Afghanistan since officially taking over from their sister battalion 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment Jan. 15.

Led by 1/3 Commanding Officer Lt. Colonel James Bierman, Executive Officer Maj. Michael Miller and Sergeant Major Sgt. Maj. Michael Berg, the Lava Dogs have held numerous meetings with local leaders, as well as high-ranking officials of the Afghan National Army and the Afghan National Police, in an effort to build on the positive relationships formed and cultivated by 3rd Battalion, 3rd Marines and 2/3 on previous deployments.

Whenever possible,

Marines and Sailors from 1/3 conduct combined patrolling operations with Afghan security forces, noted Bierman.

"We've been meeting with local dignitaries, governors, police chiefs and leaders of the ANA," said Berg, a native of Plymouth, N.H. "Ultimately, success in Afghanistan hinges on their ability to control the security of their own country. We are here to support them, to train them, and to work hand in hand with them in everything we do. The ANA and the ANP have been doing an outstanding job."

Capt. Bartholomew Battista, company commander for Bravo Company, 1/3, spoke in a similar vein about the relationship between the Marine Corps and the ANA and ANP.

"We work in conjunction with the Afghan forces because this is their country," said Battista, a Kanab, Utah native who also has strong ties to Hillsborough, Calif. "We are



Lance Cpl. Stephen Kwietniak

Marines assigned to 1st Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, prepare a convoy bound for Camp Kohgyani from Jalalabad Airfield, Afghanistan, where the battalion is deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

here to support them and to increase their prestige and standing in the eyes of the Afghan people. We aren't occupiers of this country. We continue to remain here at their request to help them and protect their country against

insurgents."

According to Master Gunnery Sgt. Carlos Craig, 1/3 operations chief, the overwhelming majority of Afghans are adamantly opposed to the insurgents who have wreaked havoc on the country in con-

junction with the rise of the Taliban in the 1990s and continue to attempt to do so despite the quick defeat of the Taliban during the early stages of Operation Enduring Freedom.

"The Taliban have been

defeated, but there are pockets of insurgent groups who still want to control the people through violence and intimidation," said the Buffalo, N.Y.

See Lava Dogs, A-5

Honoring 2/3's Fallen

A Service of Remembrance to honor the fallen Marines of 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, who lost their lives during the unit's deployment to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, will be held **at the Pacific War Memorial, Jan. 31 at 1 p.m.** The service is a tribute to Lance Cpls. Kevin Joyce, Phillip George, and Steven Valdez. Also included in this tribute is Lance Cpl. Ryan Nass.

The Marines of 2/3 performed security and stability operations in order to support self-government and create the conditions for successful parliamentary elections through combined operations with the Afghan National Army and Police, the Government of Afghanistan, and all coalition partners in their area of operations.

In the event of inclement weather, the ceremony will be held at the Base Theater.

Free military tax filings

Petty Officer 3rd Class
Chris M. Hwang

Special to American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON (NNS) — Military members and their families can now file their taxes for free, thanks to a partnership between a group that helps military people deal with financial issues and a civilian financial services company.

Military OneSource has partnered up with Intuit, a financial services company, to provide the TurboTax basic product for federal and state returns at no cost. Military members can download this program and also benefit from tax consultations and have access to appropriate resources. The Military OneSource Web site will provide annual upgrades to the TurboTax software at no cost.

"This tax consultant support for filing 2006 taxes is available toll free (800-342-9647) and at no cost to the

service members from any deployment location in the world," said acting Deputy Undersecretary of Defense for Military Community and Family Policy Jane Burke. "Military OneSource tax consultants are also familiar with the IRS publication 'Armed Forces Tax Guide.'"

Burke said DoD has a long history of offering tax assistance to military members, but this year the department is offering the opportunity for service members to self-file electronically at no cost, using a popular software product that double checks for accuracy.

"For many years, help has been available at many installations through the Voluntary Income Tax Assistance program. VITA volunteers will continue to be available through legal centers at most installations. VITA volunteers help service members to file their taxes

See Taxes, A-7

Iraq crash kills Waipahu Marine

Compiled by Hawaii
Marine Staff

A Waipahu Marine was among two killed Monday while deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Pvt. Lewis T. D. Calapini, 21, died along with Lance Cpl. Joshua A. Scott, 24, of Tunnel Hill, Ga., as a result of a vehicle accident near Al Taqaddum, Iraq. Calapini and Scott were assigned to Anti-Terrorism Battalion, 4th Marine Expeditionary Brigade, II Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Lejeune, N.C.

Calapini was an infantryman who enlisted in the Marine Corps in May 2004 and was also a graduate of the Hawaii National Guard Youth Challenge Academy.

Calapini's father, Orencio Calapini, said that his son's decision to enlist in the military was largely influenced by



Photos Courtesy of the Calapini Family

his experience as a cadet with the Hawaii National Guard YCA, which the senior Calapini said taught his son discipline and maturity. Calapini was an active athlete who loved basketball and Tae Kwon Do.

Calapini is survived in by his father, his mother Helen Grace Calapini, both from Hawaii, his brother Marvin



Pvt. Lewis T.D. Calapini, 21, died in a vehicle accident near Al Taqaddum, Iraq, while serving with the Anti-Terrorism Battalion, 4th Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Lejeune, N.C.

Calapini, a college student in Chicago, and other immediate family living in Hawaii, Chicago and the Philippines.

The cause of the accident is under investigation. Funeral and memorial service details are not available at this time.

ARG to Conduct Blue-Green Workups

Commander, Amphibious
Force, U.S. 7th Fleet
Public Affairs

OKINAWA, Japan — The Forward Deployed Amphibious Ready Group departed Okinawa, Japan, Jan. 21 for Blue-Green workups and ARG Exercise after embarking Marines of the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit.

The exercises are designed to prepare ARG Sailors and MEU Marines to carry out missions in support of theater contingencies, from humanitarian and disaster relief to full combat operations. During the training, Sailors and Marines will maximize their ability to work together during a series of exercises that will test their teamwork and ability to respond to a variety of contingencies.

Participating amphibious ships include USS Essex (LHD



3rd Class Adam R. Cole

Deck Department Sailors stationed aboard the amphibious transport dock ship USS Juneau, prepare to enter the White Beach Naval Facility. Juneau is preparing for Blue-Green work-ups and Amphibious Ready Group Exercises

2), USS Juneau (LPD 10) and USS Fort McHenry (LSD 43), as well as troops from the 31st MEU, whose 1,900 Marines are spread throughout the three ships.

There is no more cohesive

Blue-Green team than Amphibious Squadron 11 and the 31st MEU, according to Navy Capt. Mark E. Donahue, commodore, PHIBRON 11, the Task Group Commander of the forward deployed ARG, based

out of Sasebo, Japan.

"Through our long-standing partnership, strengthened during countless exercises and operations, we have come to understand and appreciate the unique capabilities that each Marine and Sailor brings to the fight. This exercise is a vital part of the continuum of training that is necessary to maintain the combat readiness of the FDNF Blue-Green team."

The forward deployed Blue-Green team last united in October 2005, during the ARG's seven-week fall deployment, operating together in Amphibious Landing Exercise 2006.

During the current exercise, the Navy/Marine Corps team will conduct ship-to-shore movement using a variety of amphibious assets. These assets include amphibious

See ARG, A-7

News Briefs

USMC College of Continuing Education

The staff of the USMC College of Continuing Education, Training & Education Command will be conducting command briefs and demonstrations at MCB Hawaii's Base Theater from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. and at the K-Bay Learning Resource Center in Building 221, room 108, Feb. 1 and 2. MarineNet Training Manager will be conducted for battalion and squadron training personnel, Feb. 2 from 10 to 11:30 a.m. at the LRC.

CCE Director Terence Kerrigan and staff will be providing news regarding the newest Web-based courseware available through MarineNet and the new Headquarters Marine Corps predeployment training package, soon to be available via www.marinenet.usmc.mil.

Additionally, the college will provide updates to Professional Military Education resources via the CCE Regional Seminar Program available to military personnel to include advances in courseware training delivery methodology.

For additional information, call Steve A. Brown, Customer Outreach/Edumarketing Coordinator, USMC College of Continuing Education, at (703) 432-0190 (DSN 378) or via e-mail at steve.brown.ctr@usmc.mil

Officers' Pool and Base Pool Closed Until Further Notice

The Officers' Pool and Kaneohe Base Pool will be closed until further notice. Camp Smith and Manana Housing pools are still open during regular business hours. For more information, call 254-7655.

Survey Participation Requested

The Department of Defense Inspector General is conducting a Trafficking in Persons survey through March 31. They are requesting maximum participation from all active duty service members, civilian Marines and contractors. We encourage all to log on and take the first part of the survey, which contains 22 questions that should take only a few minutes to complete.

To access the survey, log on to www.dodig.mil/tip%20survey/survey.htm. A password is not required.

Gas Lane Closures

A gas station canopy project has been underway since Nov. 7 and is slated to take six to seven months to complete, after construction begins. The canopy will be built in phases, which means that half of the gasoline pumps will be unavailable for consumer use at any given time.

For questions concerning this project, call George Kelsey, MCCA, 254-7689 or Ken Takeya, MCCA, 254-7539.

Volunteers Needed for Survey

Survey takers are needed for the 2006 Sea Services Women's Leadership Symposium, to be held March 21, aboard Marine Corps Base Hawaii. Survey takers can go to www.surveymonkey.com/s.asp?u=725521377979 or <http://tinyurl.com/araat> to take the survey.

Volunteer opportunities exist.

For more information, contact Lt. Cmdr. DesaRae Janszen at 541-2125, or by e-mail at djanszen@d14.uscg.mil; or Master Sgt. Milton White, MCB Hawaii equal opportunity advisor, at 257-7720, or milton.d.white@usmc.mil.

Hawaii Marine Accepts Letters

The Hawaii Marine welcomes comments for the "Letters to the Editor" section. Letters should be clear and concise. The Hawaii Marine staff reserves the right to edit letters for clarity and length. Comments must be signed with a full name and a telephone number must be provided.

E-Mail: editor@hawaiimarine.com, with "Letters to the Editor" in the subject line.

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COMMANDING GENERAL MARINE CORPS BASE HAWAII

Trafficking in Persons Policy Statement

Trafficking in Persons (TIP) is a growing problem that is threatening both our core values as Marines as well as our warfighting institution. Every year, the basic individual right of existence is threatened for hundreds of thousands of individuals.

The third largest crime worldwide, human trafficking is estimated to be a \$10 billion a year business. While commercial sex exploitation is the last example of TIP, it is also represented in forced labor, debt bondage, and child labor. I echo our Commander in Chief's 'Zero Tolerance' approach to the problem.

- TIP is defined as the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring, or receipt of persons by means of threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, abduction, fraud, deception, abuse of power or position of vulnerability or giving payments or benefits for control of another person for exploitation. Violation of these basic human rights violates our values of honor, courage, and commitment. TIP provides some specific threats to our Force. Beyond the obvious threat of HIV/AIDS and other STDs (which can rapidly decrease the combat effectiveness of a unit), there is the growing evidence that profit from TIP is making its way back to buy arms for our adversaries in the global war on terrorism.

Our first step is education. We must ensure that every Marine, Sailor, and civilian Marine assigned to Marine Corps Base Hawaii understands the severity of this crime and the degree that it has invaded our area of responsibility. Commanders will incorporate TIP training into their new join indoctrination program and will establish TIP as an annual training requirement. All personnel will receive initial training within 30 days of this policy letter. The awareness and education program will emphasize the ramifications of TIP and that participation in any activity associated with this crime will not be tolerated and will be punished.

Each Marine, Sailor, and civilian Marine must understand their responsibility to avoid these activities that support TIP and to report suspicious instances to the Base Inspector or Department of Defense Inspector General. This is an inherent part of our leadership responsibilities at all levels and our ethos as Marines.

S. A. HUMMER
BRIGADIER GENERAL, UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
COMMANDING GENERAL, MARINE CORPS BASE HAWAII



Capt. Kelly J. Grissom, company commander, Fox company, 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marines, talks to his son Alex, 5, after returning home from his deployment to Afghanistan, Jan. 20.

Cpl. Michelle M. Dickson

Kindergarten Registration For School Year 2006–07

News Release

Kindergarten registration for the school year 2006-07 at Mokapu Elementary School will begin on Feb. 1, starting each day at 9 a.m. and ending at noon.

In order to be completely registered, all requirements listed below must be met when signing in. For those not having all the required documents, a 30-day grace period will be given to submit these requirements. After the 30-day grace period has lapsed, another student may be placed in that slot.

Listed below are the requirements for registration:

- Birth Certificate
- Social Security Card
- Shot Record
- Completed physical
- TB skin test (done within one year of starting school).
- Legal size, self-address stamped envelope.

For those receiving Special Education Services, a current IEP is also required.

Starting this year, students will be placed

in two categories by age. There will be a Junior Kindergarten for students whose birthday falls between Aug. 2 and Dec. 31. Kindergarten students will be those with a birthday prior to and including Aug.1.

Registration is on a space available basis and slots fill up fast. Once classes are filled, students will be sent on overflow to either Kainalu or Kailua Elementary School.

For additional information or questions, call the school office at 254-7964.

Weekend weather outlook

Today



Day — mostly cloudy, becoming partly cloudy with isolated showers, northeast winds up to 10 mph with gusts to 20 mph, 30 percent chance of rain

Night — partly cloudy with isolated rain showers, east winds up to 8 mph, 30 percent chance of rain

High — 79
Low — 72

Saturday



Day — partly cloudy with isolated rain showers, northeast winds at 10 to 15 mph, 20 percent chance of rain

Night — partly cloudy with isolated rain showers, east winds at 10 mph, 20 percent chance of rain

High — 79
Low — 70

Sunday



Day — partly cloudy with isolated rain showers, east winds at 10 to 15 mph, 20 percent chance of rain

Night — partly cloudy with isolated showers, east winds at 10 to 15 mph, 20 percent chance of rain

High — 78
Low — 67



Tony Blazejack

Headquarters Warriors Hit O’ Course

Sections go head-to-head at Landing Zone Boondocker

Lance Cpl. Edward C. deBree
Combat Correspondent

The Merriam-Webster Dictionary defines competition as a contest between rivals.

The Marines and Sailors of Headquarters Battalion are far from rivals, but they did compete against each other in a contest on the obstacle course at Landing Zone Boondocker Jan. 20 in the first competition scheduled for the Warriors.

“The O’ Course is one building block to build combat-conditioning skills,” said Capt. Stevie Moore, company commander, Headquarters and Support Company, Headquarters Battalion. “This was put together as a competitive event and is one of many events that will happen in the near future for headquarters.”

During the event, several Marines and Sailors from the battalion work sections put together teams. One member of each team took a turn running through the course before tagging another teammate who followed his lead.

“Sections can do the O’ Course as a physical-training

event anytime,” said Moore. “But I wanted to make this event a unit competition. It makes the Marines challenge each other, which makes it a fun event for everybody.”

Moore, a 33-year-old, Fayetteville, N.C. native went on to say that the competition is a great way for the Warriors to increase unit discipline and morale.

“This was awesome,” said Pfc. Thomas L. Bocook, ticketing clerk, Traffic Management Office. “It was really motivating.

“Our job in Headquarters Battalion is to support the grunts, so it was great to do something that they do all the time. I think that we should do it more often.”

According to the 19-year-old Reardan, Wash. native, the battalion should have the Marines compete in more events like the confidence course and grappling contests.

“Our next scheduled event is pugil sticks (a yard-long stick, with slight padding at both ends, used to practice fighting one-on-one),” Moore said. “It’s still in the planning stages, but we’re looking at an April or May time frame for that event to take place.”



Tony Blazejack

Sgt. Ryan J. Giesbrecht, Armory noncommissioned officer-in-charge, Headquarters Battalion, leaps over a section of the O’ Course at Landing Zone Boondocker during a combat-conditioning skills competition.

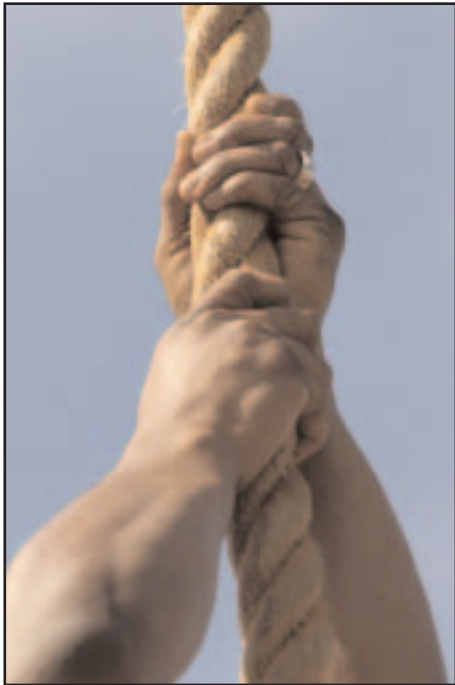


Tony Blazejack

Members of Headquarters Battalion look on as a fellow Marine overcomes an obstacle during a combat-conditioning skills competition held at O’ Course last week.

A Marine grips the rope as he attempts to climb it during a competition for the Headquarters Battalion Warriors at the O’ Course.

Lance Cpl. Edward C. deBree



On the skyline ... with 1/3

by Sgt. Joe Lindsay

On the Skyline is a weekly column written by Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, Combat Correspondent Sgt. Joe Lindsay, who is deployed to Afghanistan with the 1st Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment Lava Dogs in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Marine carries on after IED, Purple Heart



Sgt. Joe Lindsay

Cpl. Emilio Diaz Jr., a 1st Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment machinegunner with Weapons Company, Combined Anti-Armor Team 1, stands in front of a High-Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicle before embarking on a mission near Jalalabad, Afghanistan. Diaz, a Brownsville, Texas native, received the Purple Heart for injuries he sustained while manning a 50-caliber machine gun in Iraq on 1/3's last combat deployment when his Humvee was hit by an improvised explosive device.

Sgt. Joe Lindsay
Combat Correspondent

JALALABAD, Afghanistan – The silence was deafening. Actually, it wasn't really silence, but rather a persistent ringing in his ears that wouldn't go away no matter how much he willed it to. No matter how much he prayed, the ringing was always there — piercing — consuming — unyielding.

It has been more than year since his High-Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicle was hit by an improvised explosive device that day outside of a place called Fallujah, Iraq, violently rocking the Marine but somehow not throwing him from his turret position atop the vehicle, where he was manning a 50-caliber machine gun. But the ringing is still there. It's always there.

When he woke up after the explosion he was still atop the Humvee, still in the seated position, being held up only by his gunner's strap. He wasn't sure how much time had gone by. Marines were running around on the road below him yelling, but he couldn't make out what they were saying over the constant ringing — the constant ringing.

The Humvee he was riding in, just a few minutes before, had been transformed into a heap of scrap metal, twisted and grotesque. The 50-cal he had been manning was in pieces. He thought, perhaps, that he was dead; that his buddies were dead.

But he wasn't dead, and his friends weren't dead. In fact, just he and one other Marine in the Humvee were wounded in the explosion. Some would say that their flak jackets and helmets saved them or that the vehicle's armor saved them. Others would just call it luck and leave it at that.

Whatever it was, the IED had come at him sideways from a tree, destroying everything in its midst, save the Marines.

When the Purple Heart was pinned on his chest some months later, back at his unit's home base of Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, he called it the proudest moment of his life — with the possible exception of the day he graduated boot camp and became a Marine.

But the ringing. The ringing was still there. "Right after the IED hit, I went deaf," said Cpl. Emilio Diaz Jr., a 1st Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment machingunner with Weapons Company, Combined Anti-Armor Team 1. "After a month, I was still deaf," continued Diaz, recounting his story as he stood outside a Humvee nearly identical to the one he was

“The more responsibility they put on his shoulders, the more he can carry. He believes in his Marines, and we believe in him.”

Lance Cpl. Tyler Baecker

riding in that fateful day in Iraq, as he prepared for yet another combat patrol — this time in Afghanistan. "They kept me in a military hospital in Iraq for about a month, observing me, monitoring me, and hoping my hearing would come back."

"Eventually, I was sent to Germany and finally back to Hawaii for surgery," recalled the Brownsville, Texas native. "I was scared I'd never hear again – and also scared I'd get medically discharged from the Marine Corps. I didn't want that. I wanted to be back with the guys. I wanted to hear again. Most of all, I wanted the ringing to stop. I hadn't learned to block it out at that time."

After successful surgery, back in Hawaii, Diaz regained full hearing in his right ear and most of the hearing in his left ear. Still, though, the ringing persists.

"It's basically something I've learned to block out, or maybe it's more accurate to say it's something I've learned to live with," explained Diaz. "It doesn't dominate me anymore. I can function again as a Marine and as a leader of Marines."

That is good news for the Lava Dogs of 1/3 who are serving with Diaz in CAAT 1 as part of Operation Enduring Freedom.

"Corporal Diaz is one of the best corporal's, if not the best corporal, I've ever had," said Staff Sgt. Douglas Derring, a 1/3 infantry platoon leader with Weapons Company, CAAT 1. "He's just an outstanding NCO, the type of Marine that the younger troops can really look up to. He's a self-starter and he's got combat experience, which gives the Marines under his charge an added dose of confidence," admitted the Virginia Beach, Va., native.

Lance Cpl. Tyler Baecker, a 1/3 tow-gunner with Weapons

Company, CAAT 1, spoke in a similar vein about Diaz.

"I came up with Corporal Diaz in the Corps, from SOI (school of infantry), through Iraq and now in Afghanistan," said the Montrose, Colo. native. "He's a good man. A good Marine. He's always been that way, since day one. The more responsibility they put on his shoulders, the more he can carry. He believes in his Marines, and we believe in him. There's nothing we can't do. We've all got a bond that can only be formed under fire." That bond sometimes affords the Marines in Diaz's unit an opportunity for some good-natured fun.

"Sometimes the guys will start yelling or talking around me, except that they are only just moving their lips and mouthing the words, not actually speaking," said Diaz, suppressing a chuckle but unable to hide a growing smile. "A couple of times, I've had to do a double-take, thinking my ears were messing with me again. That's just Marines being Marines. I love 'em for it."

And that's exactly the reason his Marines say they "sometimes mess with Corporal Diaz," according to Lance Cpl. Michael Ericson, a 1/3 assaultman in Diaz's unit.

"We wouldn't do it if we didn't respect him," said the Larkspur, Colo. native. "I served in Iraq with Corporal Diaz, and I'd follow him into the depths of hell. It's just our way of showing him that we care about him, that we're glad he's still here with us, that he's still alive, and that he's once again leading us in a combat zone."

For his part, Diaz said he wouldn't want to be anywhere else but in Afghanistan right now.

"These people need our support," said Diaz. "When we're out on patrol, the locals wave at us and throw us the Hawaiian shaka hand sign as a gesture of goodwill. I guess it's something they picked up from 3/3 or 2/3, but they seem to know that we are from Hawaii. It's pretty cool. What isn't cool is that there are insurgents here that will kill and terrorize people for being friendly with us."

"They're not going to be able to do it, though, 'cause they'd have to take out the entire country," continued Diaz. "The Afghan people are our friends. They want to be able to elect their own leaders in a democratic setting without fear of being murdered for it. It's just that there are pockets of insurgents here, many of whom aren't even from Afghanistan, who want to keep the people enslaved, both mentally and physically, through terror. That is the problem here. We're gonna fix that problem."

Info as Important as Ammo in 'Long War'

Jim Garamone
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — In the so-called "Long War," information will be as important as ammunition, a senior military officer said.

"It is clear ... in a global perspective how important information is and its ability to influence people and their ideas," Army Lt. Gen. Ray Odierno, assistant to the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said. "We have to understand that."

Odierno called the Jan. 19 Osama bin Laden statement claiming preparation for another terrorist attack and carried by all Western media as "information warfare, pure and simple."

Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld has often spoken

about the need for the United States to counter claims made by al Qaeda and its affiliated groups. "The people we're up against know how to manage the media," Rumsfeld said at a Dec. 23, 2005, troop town hall meeting in Fallujah, Iraq.

Extremists can make claims and have those splashed instantly across the front pages of newspapers or in leading broadcasts around the world. "I think it was Mark Twain who said that a lie speeds around in seconds, while truth is still putting its boots on," Rumsfeld said.

"We have laws and rules that we have to abide by, and that's a good thing, but it makes it a bit more difficult for us than it does for Osama bin Laden, who just issues anything he wants and nobody will hold him



Petty Officer 1st Class Chad J. McNeeley

Secretary of Defense Donald H. Rumsfeld answers a reporter's question during a Pentagon press briefing in Arlington, Va.

accountable," Odierno said.

He said he's not asking for the same power bin Laden has, but the U.S. government has to figure out how to work within the laws to counter the propaganda put out by groups like al Qaeda.

With the growth of technology and the explosion of

the Internet and related media, Odierno said it might be time to review all the international agreements and domestic laws to see if they still apply. "Maybe we don't need to change any law, but let's take a look at it to see if change is needed," he said.

He said the Internet is the biggest challenge. How should the U.S. government react when Web sites encourage radicalism? What should the government do when sites list data that could be harmful to our service members who are

deployed around the world? He said this is not just a DoD issue, but is one that the entire U.S. government — including the legislative branch — should examine. Odierno also said the government must look for new ways to work together. In 1986, Congress passed the Goldwater-Nichols Act, making the military become the joint force that is the envy of the world today.

"Change is hard," he said. "We resisted Goldwater-Nichols, and it turned out to be the best thing that ever happened to us."

He said everyone needs to look at what cooperation and effort is required to do DoD missions. "If it takes a second Goldwater-Nichols Act," Odierno said, "then it is something we need to at least take a

look at." The change is needed as the United States faces the Long War. The general hastened to point out that the Long War does not mean servicemembers will be fighting in Iraq or Afghanistan for the next 20 years. "The Long War is that we are going to fight these loosely connected networks that will be around the world," he said.

"Right now, we have a major fight in Iraq and we're now continuing to transition in Afghanistan," said Odierno. "That will go on, but once we are successful in Iraq and Afghanistan, the extremists will be looking for another place to continue their mission — and it could be anywhere in the world. We have to interdict and stay ahead of them."

Lava Dogs, From A-1

native. "There's been a big and warm acceptance of us here by the majority of the locals. I'd go so far as to say they love us being here, because we are helping their army fight against the insurgents who have terrorized the local populace."

"The Afghan people share similarities with us," continued Craig. "Kids are the same all over the world. Parents are the same all over the world. Everyone just wants a good life for their families. The best way to give them that is to give them the tools, training and support to help maintain the democracy that is being built here. Everything we do, we do it hand in hand with the Afghan forces. We are partners and are united with our Afghan friends against the insurgents."

According to one Marine, the relationship between the Afghan forces and the Marine Corps has paid huge dividends.

"This is my second tour in Afghanistan," said Cpl. Derek Norris, a 1/3 machinegunner with Alpha Company who previously served in country with 3/3 from December 2004 to June 2005. "Things are getting a lot better here," continued the Lake City, Fla., native. "Everything we do, we do it together with the ANA. They are great allies and have the same goals as us, to rid Afghanistan of the insurgents and allow Afghanistan to live in peace as a free and democratic country."

Despite the improvements and tremendous strides made, Afghanistan still remains a dangerous place, and the Marines of 1/3 are discovering that firsthand.

"There have been some intermittent attacks within some of our areas of operation from the insurgents against us with IEDs (improvised explosive devices), RPGs (rocket propelled grenades), mortars and small-arms fire, since we took over in country," said Staff Sgt. Jason Butler, a 1/3 assistant operations chief from Salt Lake City. "But they have been ineffective. The enemy likes to hit and then run and hide. They don't want to stand and fight a Marine Corps united with our ANA friends, because they know together we will bring that exchange to a quick and decisive end."

The attacks against 1/3 also underscore another fact regarding the Marine Corps' presence in Afghanistan, noted Berg.

"Ultimately our mission is to locate, close with, and destroy the enemy," said Berg. "That's what Marines do. Obviously there's plenty of bad guys here in the country that are trying to prevent Afghanistan from having their own democracy and government. The bottom line is — we need to get rid of them, and we will with the support of the ANA and ANP. We have a dual mission statement: Kill the bad guys and train the good guys."



Marine Ceremonial Guards conduct a full honors welcome ceremony for visiting Commander of the Royal Bahrain Navy Col. Abdullah Al Mansoori at the Washington Navy Yard. Mansoori was presented the Legion of Merit from Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Mike Mullen for fostering a durable and constructive relationship between the United States and Bahrain.

Chief Petty Officer Johnny Bivera

**Photos and Story
by Lance Cpl.
R. Drew Hendricks**
Marine Forces Pacific

CAMP H. M. SMITH, Hawaii — Marines from the Marine Corps Forces, Pacific Security Augmentation Force sent thousands of rounds down range as they honed their combat pistol skills and qualified with the M1014 Combat Shotgun at Puuloa range, Jan. 17 and 18.

“This training is to prepare you for combat, that’s what its all about gentleman,” said Sgt. Matthew E. Nale, noncommissioned officer-in-charge of training the SAF. “Combat is what Marines are made for.”

The Marines spent the first day in class learning the functions of the M1014, which is a lightweight, gas-operated, tubular magazine fed, 12-gauge, semi-automatic shotgun.

To qualify, the Marines not only shot the weapon, they also had to disassemble, reassemble, and conduct basic maintenance on the weapon.

The Marines were able to shoot off a few rounds on the first day, but the second day is when the metal met the target.

The Marines paired off in teams of two and simulated a room-clearing scenario. After breaching a plankwood door, the Marines rushed to the nearest barrier for cover. The Marine who breached the door continued to lay down covering fire with his shotgun, while the other engaged targets with his pistol.

After several successful runs, Marines were allowed to come up with their own strategy for clearing the course.

“There are multiple ways to complete this course, but like Sgt. Nale taught us, speed and accuracy are what counts,” said Staff Sgt. William K. Screws, member of the SAF.

After the shotguns shells were gone, Marines found themselves with close to 1,000 9mm rounds still to be fired. They continued to enhance the obstacles, increasing difficulty to clear them fast, accurately and safely.

“We have a great opportunity to come out here and conduct some pretty—high speed training. I’m glad to see these Marines taking advantage of it,” said Nale.

According to Nale, regardless of any Marines’ job, they should take every opportunity to prepare themselves for combat.

“After this training, I know that I am a better shot, and I know I would be comfortable using these weapons in combat,” said Cpl. Jonathan E. Knight, SAF member. “Not to mention I have fun doing it.”

As fun as the training may be, it serves a very important purpose.

“This training comes with a price Marines,” added Nale. “Just know that if this base comes under attack, a natural disaster strikes, or anything else happens that requires the SAF, you are going to get a call.”

The SAF Marines train quarterly in an effort to constantly improve their ability to respond in an emergency situation.

“I’ve said it a hundred times, every Marine should continue to train like they were going to combat tomorrow,” said Nale. “That’s what I am hoping to continue to do with these Marines here.”

Pacific Security Augmentation Force ups their arsenal



Sgt. Daniel O. Rosales reloads his M1014 in an exercise familiarizing Marines with the M1014 shotgun.



Corporal Jonathan E. Knight, fires a round off of the M1014 shotgun before running the room-breaching course.

ARG, From A-1

assault vehicles; combat rubber-raiding craft, utility landing craft and air cushion landing craft. Marine aircraft will also be utilized as integral parts of the Marine Air-Ground Task Force. Embarked aircraft are from Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 262 (Reinforced), the Air Combat Element of the 31st MEU. Aircraft flown by the squadron include the CH-46E Sea Knight, CH-53E Super Stallion, AH-1W Cobra, UH-1N Huey, and AV-8B Harrier II.

According to Col. Lee Miller, commanding officer of the 31st MEU, it is always great to embark the ships of the Forward Deployed Naval Forces'ARG, which have become our second home. "During the exercise that lies ahead, we will hone our skills to ensure that together we can respond to whatever contingency may arise," he said.

The forward deployed ARG is part of Task Force 76, the Navy's only forward-deployed amphibious force, which is headquartered at White Beach Naval Facility, Okinawa, Japan, with an operating detachment in Sasebo, Japan.

Taxes, From A-1

free of charge," said Burke.

Defense Department personnel noticed the need for a tax filing system that met military members' needs. TurboTax modifies itself based on the customer's information relevant to their unique tax situation. Providing an easier way to file taxes is an important quality-of-life issue, officials said.

"DoD recognizes the reciprocal relationship that binds the military member, the military mission, and military families. The Department is working hard to make a difference in the quality of life of service members and their families," Burke said. "The Military OneSource program, available worldwide 24/7, leverages technology to help service members and their families deal with the stresses of the military lifestyle. Providing access to electronic tax filing with the free telephonic support of a tax consultant is just one of the services offered by the Military OneSource service."

TurboTax customers can expect to see a new and improved way of filing their taxes as well. The easy-to-understand language allows users to feel more confident about the information they receive. Users can also click on an "Explain This" button within the TurboTax Web site to get relevant help. TurboTax also includes time-saving summary screens, allowing users to quickly review and edit their data.

"The department is proud to offer innovative options, like free electronic access to Turbo Tax and telephonic support, for addressing the challenges that military members and their dependents face," said Burke. "The Department of Defense recognizes that families also serve and is committed to supporting military families."



Marines advance to their targets in order to review them after a stage of fire during enhanced marksman-ship training at Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton. The landing support specialists, or red patches, of 4th Marine Logistics Group are undergoing pre-deployment training before they deploy in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Lance Cpl. Stephen Holt